

REMARKS

Claim 17, 19 and 20 are rejected and claim 18 is objected to as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 17 and 19-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2002-114884. Claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP 2002-114884, further in view of U.S. 2001/0022234 to Okumura et al.

In response, claim 18 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 22 to thereby obviate the foregoing rejections. Claims 1-18 have been canceled. Claims 19 and 20 have been amended to depend from claim 22.

Withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of claims 19, 20, 21 and 22 is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the Examiner believes that it may be helpful to advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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